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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Mark A. Conkling)
App. No. : 10/729,121)
Filed : December 05, 2003)
For : MODIFYING NICOTINE AND)
NITROSAMINE LEVELS IN)
TOBACCO)
Examiner : Unassigned)

ESTABLISHMENT OF RIGHT OF ASSIGNEE TO TAKE ACTION
AND
REVOCATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

The undersigned is empowered to act on behalf of the assignee below (the "Assignee"). A true copy of the original Assignment of the above-captioned application from the inventor(s) to the Assignee is attached hereto. This Assignment represents the entire chain of title of this invention from the inventor(s) to the Assignee.

I declare that all statements made herein are true, and that all statements made upon information and belief are believed to be true, and further, that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful, false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. § 1001, and that willful, false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, or any patent issuing thereon.

The undersigned hereby revokes any previous powers of attorney in the subject application, and hereby appoints the registrants of Knobbe, Martens, Olson & Bear, LLP, 2040 Main Street, Fourteenth Floor, Irvine, California 92614, Telephone (949) 760-0404, **Customer No. 20,995**, as its attorneys with full power of substitution and revocation to prosecute this

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application and to transact all business in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office connected herewith. This appointment is to be to the exclusion of the inventor(s) and his attorney(s) in accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 3.71.

Please use **Customer No. 20,995** for all communications.

Vector Tobacco, Ltd.

Dated: April 19, 2004

By: 

Steve Zeison

Title: Vice President and Chief Patent Counsel

Address: 712 Fifth Avenue, 52nd Floor
New York, NY 10019

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**COPY
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ASSIGNMENT


WHEREAS, I, Mark A. Conkling, a U.S. citizen, residing at 5511 New Rise Court, Chapel Hill, NC 27516, have invented certain new and useful improvements in a MODIFYING NICOTINE AND NITROSAMINE LEVELS IN TOBACCO for which I have filed an application for Letters Patent in the United States, Application No. 10/729,121 filed December 5, 2003;

AND WHEREAS, VECTOR TOBACCO LTD (hereinafter "ASSIGNEE"), a Bermuda Corporation, with its principal place of business at Clarendon House, 2 Church Street, Hamilton, HMCX, Bermuda, desires to acquire the entire right, title, and interest in and to the said improvements and the said Application:

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the sum of One Dollar (\$1.00) to me in hand paid, and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, I, the said inventor, do hereby acknowledge that I have sold, assigned, transferred and set over, and by these presents do hereby sell, assign, transfer and set over, unto the said ASSIGNEE, his successors, legal representatives and assigns, the entire right, title, and interest throughout the world in, to and under the said improvements, and the said application and all provisional applications relating thereto, and all divisions, renewals and continuations thereof, and all Letters Patent of the United States which may be granted thereon and all reissues and extensions thereof, and all rights of priority under International Conventions and applications for Letters Patent which may hereafter be filed for said improvements in any country or countries foreign to the United States, and all Letters Patent which may be granted for said improvements in any country or countries foreign to the United States and all extensions, renewals and reissues thereof; and I hereby authorize and request the Commissioner of Patents of the United States, and any Official of any country or countries foreign to the United States, whose duty it is to issue patents on applications as aforesaid, to issue all Letters Patent for said improvements to the said ASSIGNEE, his successors, legal representatives and assigns, in accordance with the terms of this instrument.

AND I HEREBY covenant and agree that I will communicate to the said ASSIGNEE, his successors, legal representatives and assigns, any facts known to me respecting said improvements, and testify in any legal proceeding, sign all lawful papers, execute all divisional, continuing and reissue applications, make all rightful oaths and generally do everything possible to aid the said ASSIGNEE, his successors, legal representatives and assigns, to obtain and enforce proper patent protection for said improvements in all countries.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and seal this 7 day of April, 2004

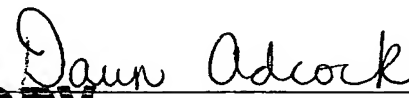

Mark A. Conkling

STATE OF NC
COUNTY OF Granville } ss.

On 7th, April, 2004, before me, DAWN ADCOCK, personally appeared Mark A. Conkling personally known to me (or proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence) to be the person whose name is subscribed to the within instrument, and acknowledged to me that he executed the same in his authorized capacity, and that by his signature on the instrument the person(s), or the entity upon behalf of which the person(s) acted, executed the instrument.

WITNESS my hand and official seal.

[SEAL]


COPY
Notary Signature

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